

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am writing in opposition to SB1085. The proponents of legalization claim that "this is not about the kids." **But, it absolutely is about our kids. Our kids are the ones who will pay the price.**

The states that have legalized retail marijuana have much higher teen use of marijuana than those states that have not. Past month marijuana usage of 12-17 years old, 2016, 2017 follows (data from SAMHSA.gov, National Survey on Drug Use and Health):

10 States with the Highest Teen 30-day Marijuana Use

- 1) Vermont: 10.75% (Legalized)
- 2) Oregon: 10.35% (Legalized)
- 3) Maine: 9.88% (Legalized)
- 4) New Mexico: 9.74% (Medical Marijuana)
- 5) Rhode Island: 9.49% (Medical Marijuana)
- 6) Colorado: 9.02% (Legalized)
- 7) Washington (state): 8.96% (Legalized)
- 8) Massachusetts: 8.91% (Legalized)
- 9) Alaska: 8.84% (Legalized)
- 10) Nevada: 8.82% (Legalized)

10 States with the Lowest Teen 30-day Marijuana Use

- 41) West Virginia: 5.45%
- 42) Georgia: 5.39%
- 43) Oklahoma: 5.38%
- 44) New Jersey: 5.16% (Medical Marijuana)
- 45) Kansas: 5.16%
- 46) Iowa: 5.11%
- 47) Mississippi: 5.05%
- 48) North Dakota: 4.99%
- 49) Texas: 4.86%
- 50) Utah – 4.71%



One of the saddest aspects of the legalization movement is the promotion of marijuana abuse as a risk-free, "recreational" activity, a "healthy" one. **If you think this is not about our kids, guess who the industry targets.** See the ads and the gummy bears in Colorado. The industry ignores the substantial body of research of marijuana's impact on the brain, especially the on the adolescent brain. Such risks are real, and the damage is real.

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